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I. Stimulus/Response: March 20, 1976

"I think I have a good idea for a project that could help UFOESP. The 1976 New York Star Trek Convention...is planning to have about 6,000 members. The Star Trek Bicentennial-10 Convention will probably have a large number of members although I don't know how many. Both of these conventions and other Star Trek conventions are good places for us to get more people to join our cause. I myself am a Trekker and I believe that most Trekkers are already convinced that Space is the Place. We should make ourselves known at Star Trek conventions. Ads in Star Trek convention program books, like the one in the Aussiecon program book, would be one way to achieve this. We should also pass out literature from UFOESP at these conventions. I am going to be at the two specifically mentioned conventions and I would be willing to pass out some kind of leaflets for UFOESP if they were provided for me. Please let me know what you think of my idea." Michelle A. Klein, 2217 Cross Country Blvd., Baltimore MD 21209./One of the most exciting aspects of the task before our organization is the great number of social groups to which we can profitably turn our attention. In the last issue of Morale Booster in reply to a letter from Del Tompkins, we discussed the possibilities of Academia. For over a year U.F.O.E.S.P. has made efforts to enlist the support of the science-fiction community. Although there are similarities between Star Trek fans and science-fiction fans, there are also great differences. One need only consult the literature of their various conventions to learn this point. It does not matter for our purposes here to discuss these differences. It is sufficient to know that Star Trekkers represent a large, coherent, distinct group which has some innate sympathy with our work. Unfortunately, Michelle's letter reached the Board of Governors just as the President and Treasurer left for Far Centaurus and were in no position to prepare the materials needed by her for at least the first convention mentioned. Star Trek enthusiasts, we must note, are tenacious in their pleasure from Star Trek in all its many forms. Furthermore, they are a fast-growing body of whose numbers track can barely be kept. The logical extension of our recruitment campaign within science-fiction enclaves is an effort to ally some other section of the space enthusiast population related to the one we propagandize now but emphasizing a more particularist interest. Our resources are so constrained at present that we must survey many groups before we make a large effort to convince specific ones of the merit of our purposes. For this reason, Michelle, we are most excited about your letter. Each member of this organization has a wide range of interests and contacts. If each makes a small effort to influence the behavior of some sample of some specific section of the space enthusiast population towards support of our goals, we can obtain, relatively cheaply from labor and time considerations, a wide survey of the potential for our work from support of other kinds of spacers. There is a small supply of our literature. However, all should feel at liberty to write to the Board with requests for copies for distribution if they know of some specific activity they to which they may put these copies to use. All a rather complicated way of saying that our forces have reserves and so we may undertake new, if limited, campaigns.

"We're still waiting for info from Delmar Tompkins on that national conference you mentioned. The basis of this concept sounds excellent and I really believe it should rate high on our list of priorities. We must really get out there and campaign! I continue to look forward to future personal contact between UFOESP and UFA. Let's keep them eyes on der stars." James Prince, United Futurist Association, Post Office Box 17059,

San Diego CA 92117./ To build the space conference will require the participants' enthusiasm to be matched by their labor brigades. It is not too early to consider the participation of each space group as it comes to our attention. We have had many contacts with the United Futurist Association and the slow progress that has been made to activate them with regards to some concerted effort towards our mutual goals will hopefully serve as the foundation for a more committed effort as the conference takes shape. It is essential that solid channels of intercourse be established and used whether or not our different organizations engage in work intensely co-operative as a common pattern of interaction. We need to get the ball rolling. A great deal of initial preparation has been completed. Enough has been done to make it relatively easy for any group to decide if the proposal has significant merit, enough so that they are willing to attend or continue with the preparations in an active manner. The conference will only occur through the determined efforts of some small body of organizers serving as the catalyst and focal point of the event. There is plenty of room for everyone. Until the printing of the program of the conference, nothing is even close to being wrought in stone. The more diverse, at this point, the ideas, angles, resources, and perspectives generated over this thing the richer the experience and the greater impact CHRYSE-1 will have. So let's keep our eyes on the stars but let's also keep our feet on the ground and trodding down the path to Chryse. It is not necessarily a long journey but it is one with its rigors.

"I read your advertisement in the Aussiecon Program Book and I totally agree that space exploration is necessary for the survival of man. Please send me more information, i.e., what does an 'active' membership involve and what is a 'passive' membership? What are you planning to do to reach your objectives? etc. I am a US citizen living in London." Donald Robertson, 38 Great Percy Street, London WC1 United Kingdom./ If one reads the world press regularly, one can only come away from the experience thinking "Space is the place!" Although space as necessary for species survival is an aspect of the environment's possibilities long associated with human plans for conquest of the Universe, it is one to which only recently we have turned any great attention (the Third Petition, this issue's "If World War III stays nuclear free..."). It seems so impossible to think of the Moon, Mars, Titan, all such unquestionably alien worlds would be the final reservoir of human genes. Yet the history of the species is one spilling over boundaries to another. We are not part of those conservatives who view 'growth' as some mystical quality innate to living matter. Yet we can not deny the significance that 'space' has for 'growth'. If one has the basic elements (chemical) in quantity with easy access to them, those elements' fabrication into any dreamt need of Man is solely dependent upon energy utilization. The possibilities of solar energy utilization on the Moon are obvious. It remains only to remind the reader once again of the ample access of the basic chemical elements there on the Moon. We can survive on Luna. There has never been any question of our ability to survive there. What has been in doubt, however, for a long time is the extent to which we will allow the past to paralyze our political will during the War. The nation may be too Pavlovian in its conditioning towards the international community. It is time to get some sense into our foreign policy. Let's talk of our relations with Jupiter's magnetic field, Saturn's rings, Pluto's distance, Mars' life, and other such alien systems! It would be a bold act for any current politician to speak of the necessity of Outposts of Man. Yet we must not forget that we can force their hands. If we activate each other, sooner or later we will activate them.

"I haven't taken time from [various] duties...to do any artwork since the menu I did...[in] August or September.... And this makes me aware of [the organization's] financial situation which I've more than once wanted to enhance by whipping off a check to UFOESP. Alas, as Assistant President for Light Industry, I feel rather ineffectual and removed. What can I do? I can't even afford to send stamps to keep all the wonderful communications coming.... Discipline is necessary if I'm to begin painting pictures of space... Enough. The [Board] continue[s] to surprise me with [its] energy output. Has Delmar [Assistant President for Interorganizational Affairs] gone away to a University? Can a list be compiled with names and addresses of communicating members...of...UFOESP? It seems to me I remember such a list but after thumbing through every last written page connected with my 'Space Notebook' I've decided I don't have one. I can see the importance of relating to other [space enthusiasts] though I can't be sure...whether I have anything to contribute. Who knows? Love to all space-minded energizers out there whether organizers or dreamers." Ginette Stammitz, 623 1/2 West 15th Street, Antioch CA 94509./ When we speak of our task being to mobilize millions to support an expanded national space program, we do not speak only metaphorically. No matter our particular resource level we must undertake projects with the macro-world in mind. Though our efforts must seem to be barely identifiable when contrasted to the scale of our constant vision, without this constant contrast of magnitude little coherency will be built along with our projects. The quality of coherency is the one which magnifies the effects of each undertaking so that the cumulative growth of our influence is exponential. We write letters to other groups and are read by a few dozen. We disseminate our ideas at conventions of one sort or another and reach a few score every time. We send petitions to hundreds and are taken seriously by a handful. In each case it is important to recognize the added value to the endeavor generated by a broad-minded attitude: one speaks, disseminates, presents, preaches, propagandizes, persuades with an audience of millions in mind. There are two lessons to learn from this statement. One, the work we do is demanding and so we often get tired and indifferent. Two, every effort we expend towards our goals is increased in effect by adopting the proper attitude towards it. This is no simpleminded moralistic lesson. To speak of space requires great energy. It is not unexpected that our spirits will lag and flag. It sounds so foolish to speak of visionary perspectives in this context, but how can we avoid it? Space is vast; it consumes all the energies of men. Your contribution, as everyone's, is determined by your discipline and abandonment to the vision of Great Space. We cannot fly to the Moon unaided. And few will provide non-reciprocal foreign aid. We do not talk of guns and butter. We talk of far pleasanter things. Therefore, the challenge of our work lies not in starting the fire but in deciding what fuel to use. Yes, Delmar has gone on a mission to Academia and we fear that he has been stranded or that his receiver has expired. The list of addresses to which you refer is the Membership Register which can be found for the first time in the October 1975 issue of Morale Booster. It is expected that this register will be run in the magazine periodically. The Board of Governors highly recommends the mutual correspondence and communication made possible by each member knowing a contact address for many, if not all, other members. So get with it Assistant P. for Light I. You can act unilaterally and still have full powers. It is not so much a question of ego-tripping as awareness of the gestalt necessary for success.

II.We'll Get To The Moon Just Fine

The Third Petition To The People's Representatives touched upon an aspect of a subject which will be treated in depth here. It is also the

matter to which allusion was made in Great Memorandum 1 (GM 1). We have spoken of space for the most part in contexts disassociated from the complete world-social-reality. Space does not permit the full examination the last term warrants. What we must understand for our discussion is the nearly inextricable intertwining of events in the technological world. It has been always true that history is not a simple linear record of human disgrace and achievement. The emphasis upon the chronological arrangement of the data and simultaneous insistence upon separation of the legitimate historical perspectives have resulted in a confused popular understanding of current events. Each one of us lives history on the grand as well as mute mote-ish scales.

To speak of space is to speak of the opposite of war: the Earth today. Endless discussion can be generated by the simple question "What is war?" Long before the issue of the typology of war arises the participants to the initial discussion will be mired in the nuances of human conflict. Thus, it is idle to present an elaborate definition and defense of the definition of war. War is the opposite of space. In particular, World War III is the opposite of the Space Revolution. For many past issues, terminology has been introduced with the admonition to take the concepts on faith if necessary. It has been hoped that with the methodical, if surprising, presentation of these concepts in many contexts some general framework of understanding would emerge in each reader's mind. When we speak of the Space Revolution we mean that open-ended historical period marked by the successful launchings of Sputnik I and Sputnik II in the fall of 1957 as the beginning and various planetary probes, orbital missions, lunar landings, etc as intermediary reference points. When we speak of World War III we speak of that open-ended historical period beginning April 1, 1975 and marked by such events as the first phase of the Angolan Civil War, the continual social disintegration of Ireland, Great Britain, Spain and Portugal, the Lebanese Front of the Arab-Israeli War, and the international terrorist campaign against the Western Bloc. When we speak of the opposition of these two realities, we speak of the balance between war and peace. Space exploration and exploitation is, in the final analysis, the pacific perspective of the global question of survival in a planetary war.

Many who favor expansion into space do so for religio-mystical reasons. We have mentioned these enthusiasts in the past in passing, preferring to focus on less subjective viewpoints. An idea common to the theologies of these associations and cults is the salvation implicit in the mastery of space. Beings of other worlds, Interplanetary Councils, Supreme Confederations, enormous incomprehensible technological power are symbols carrying within them the cosmology of these believers in outline. An equally important set of symbols in these cosmologies consists of destructive elements associated with Earth: famine, economic collapse, World War, increasing exploitation of everyone by everybody. The juxtaposition of these two sets of symbols, even without the profuse explanatory documents related to them, carries an obvious message: space is the place. The inferred meaning to the juxtaposition is that humanity, beset by war and other social diseases, is sick with an infliction which cannot be cured by Earthly Powers. We know the lesson well in another guise: the President, the Premier, the Prime Minister, the Cabinet, the Congress, the Parliament, the Chiefs of Staff of all the Armed Forces lead us now on the path to incessant conflict.

We need not be believers in such ideas but any examination of the current world press leaves one with the distinct impression of deja vu. If one studies the modern history of Europe and the East, this sense of reliving the past is only emphasized until it can be tasted. The wars which beset the world in the teens, twenties, thirties, and forties of this century seem too formal to be compared to the fragmented planetary war we

witness in the seventies and saw develop in the sixties. Yet much of the observed formality of World Wars I and II derives from their position in time with respect to living generations. Now, everyone sees World Wars I and II from a similar perspective where the combatants are all agreed and the times of the wars being the same for each. Yet this could not be further from the truth. For example, World War II lasted from December 1941 to August 1945 for the Americans and Japanese whereas it lasted from June 1941 to May 1945 for the Russians, while the French and British fought from September 1939 to May and December of 1945. Furthermore, while the Western Powers are agreed on the terminology (World War II) the Japanese refer to the conflict as the Great Pacific War while the Russians think of it as the Great Patriotic (Fatherland) War. It might be thought that these statements disprove the initial remarks since the two previous sentences are explicitly diverse in contents. What must be understood from this disparity is the nationalistic basis for definition. What this means is that each national group projects its past history onto the world so that the Russians think that the other combatants' experiences of this event is the same as their own while the Germans see the war as if everyone else experienced it at the same time, place, and sequence. The way in which this contradiction comes to exist concerns the ignorance each national group's population has about the others. This contradiction also gives a clue to the human species' ability to live harmoniously with itself. On the one hand, it is common (latent) knowledge of each national state that its experience of the event is unique. On the other hand, so little attention is paid to other states' experience from the other states' view that the first nation is ignorant of any other experience than its own. Why not, you might say, since the world is so big and we can only live where we are? The answer is simple though only true for the past four or five decades: the communications explosion intervenes and not only creates, but demands, a less parochial view.

The subject, though documented daily in the specialist and popular press, is esoteric. Since the war is global, there are thousands upon thousands of details to record and recollect. However, we need not master the subject all at once. Furthermore, the very multiplicity of details is a consolation. Even with the most random filing system an intrinsic order becomes apparent as the facts mount. The killing goes on without a slack of pace. The international political intrigue heightens each week. Such natural disasters as cyclone, famine, pollution attacks, and economic depression are ever more enmeshed with governmental crises. The social chaos of Argentina, the imperialistic role of Cuba, the proliferation of nuclear weapons (Israel now the club's seventh member, just two years after India exploded a device), the terrorism in the United States tell us that strife is something huge and growing. The growth we observe is not random and it is this development which justifies the naming of the War for what it is though not all the formalities have been observed in its declaration by the combatants. The Third World War grows along the framework of the international community with its alliances, colonies and protectorates, courts, international agencies, foreign polices, and trade agreements. The coalitions might be termed East and West or Left and Right or Imperialist and Nationalist or even Red versus Black Imperialism. What is truly observed is not a single-tier conflict of coalitions but a multi-tier arrangement where the opposing forces are in flux with respect to one another. This aspect will be discussed at length in future; for the moment we accept the conclusions and move to another section of the Big Picture.

War is not peace but it is a close approximation. Life must/still goes on. Whether the entire planet is flailing away at itself with every

tooth and claw or whether it indolently rubs itself here and there, life blossoms, bears, blooms, breeds, grows. The dead may pile to the sky but new warriors man and woman the barricades vigorously. There is much local flaring and subsidence. Truces are made, armistices negotiated, pacts made and broken. This kaleidoscopic trend creates the illusion that the global conflict is fragmented, disjointed, localized. In truth, the War is waged everywhere: London, Northern Ireland, Spain, Portugal, two-thirds of Africa (in two or three coalitions), Russia, America, the Phillipines, Israel, Persia, Brazil, Argentina, Southeast Asia. Nonetheless, life continues. Gardens are planted, shoes are made, lovers lost and gained, children are sent to school, candidates run for office, goods are shipped to foreign lands, houses are constructed, weapons built, training centers erected and closed down. The Buddhists and Hindus speak of a Wheel of Life while Christians speak of a Wheel of Fortune. The experienced observer of international relations today, if he or she were to speak in such terms, might say that Life is pinned on the rack, the Wheel of War.

To the space enthusiast this enormous waste of national treasure on the part of the majority of the world's states is something more than shocking. Indeed, it is something more than madness, too. It is madness itself gone mad. The Universe, in all its incomprehensibility and immediacy, wheels above our heads. As we reach out to the starry night to pinch diamond points of light between finger and mind's eye, so do our technological wonders capture the Universe's secrets between computer and remote sensing device. Yet this cosmic drama is witnessed by few, only the lonely space enthusiasts across the planet who, in their isolated enclaves, receive muted transmissions indicative of others like them. It is a depressing situation. The masses, in their torpor and ritual behavior, march to and fro in war. The hidden masses of space enthusiasts, in their fatalism and hope for a better future, survive with morsels of discovery and invention in space. Meanwhile, the marvelous instruments of Man spread through the Void and beam signals which, to those who listen, tell of gains, adventures, profits, well deserved losses, achievements and advances incalculable beyond Earth's atmosphere.

The premise upon which all effort towards mobilizing the masses for space rests is the certainty that space enthusiasts do have power. It is a latent power to be sure. It is a raw power even more certainly when it is expressed. In any event it is a power that can move mountains. This is dramatic language. It is talk well suited to these troubled days and times. It is not the purpose of the space enthusiasts to save the world. But it is their purpose to save another world if it can be for humanity. In the process they must save some large body of themselves. This salvation, in turn, implies the necessity of salvation of some region of the globe. It is not a question of where to hide but a problem of how to avoid the major battle zones before their eruptions. We do not write an essay on survival in combat. Yet we do investigate an intimate reality for all people, whether they like space or not. We approach the subject methodically for it is a delicate matter. The documentation must proceed intermittently with the lessons for spacers. World War III, as any global conflict, requires many strategems in order to maximize probabilities of living through it at the very least. In these pages we investigate only those statagies which emphasize space. There is hope. There is fatalism. There is, indeed, much to fear and ignore. More importantly, there is the latent power of the spacer masses. Gravity provides all other answers.

(to be continued)

III. Progress Is Our Most Important Product

With this issue Morale Booster enters its second year of continuous publication. There have been many delays. Yet a clear vision has been maintained. Improvisation has been vital with consequent stylistic eccentricity. Yet each issue has provided a greater foundation for our various tasks to organize a powerful lobby for space. We have been persistent; we have been consistent in our pushing of space. In the issues to come it is hoped that historical time and astronomical time will come closer to congruency. Each month that is marked by our publication establishes a firmer hold on the alien political terrain. We are gaining invaluable experience in the 'spacer underground'. We have often used militaristic terminology and it is due to our awareness that there will be much fractionation in the movement. In order to prepare for this continual process of accommodation (largely through attrition) it is vital that our ideological referents be firm. This talk is pedantic. It is theoretical. It is dry. Yet it contains the essence of our endeavors. There are two tasks before us: to organize the mass of space enthusiasts and to organize the mass of the general population. Although we undertake operations to manage both tasks, we must realize that our primary efforts in the first two or three years will be directed towards the first task. Until the organizers of the revolution are organized little coherent progress will ensue.

In the coming year we hope to continue the prodigious work we have in our first year. We will, naturally, have the usual columns and will keep steady in our presentation of the Space Revolution. The first quarter of 1976 will have articles continuing the development of article II of this issue. We also hope to have an essay on the arts and space and there are plans to develop a new column. Good ideas come to the Board frequently from the membership and we only regret that there isn't a higher degree of participatory democracy in the organization's activities. This is the traditional time to plead once again for articles, drawings, poetry, visions and whatever else the membership might conceive as useful for the furtherance of the revolution to include in Morale Booster if not undertake as a major project. There is a vast field to conquer. We may expect much competition. But if we are adaptable and vigorous we should master the situation as it develops and grow with it. Our official publication and the addenda provided by the political literature will insure our possession of the basic resources of ideology and imagination for the long siege. If we do not weed ourselves in, others will weed us out.

This is frank talk. But the world-social-reality demands no other. We have our principles and so we do like to be physical as little as possible. We have the firm conviction that there is enormous room to grow in space. It is also our firm belief that this space exists wherever we exercise the will to be dominated by its immediacy. We must take others into our orbit. We must accumulate particles from the spacer mass. We maximize our gravitational effect by increasing activity. There is, of course, a natural limit to the process. Exhaustion would bring calamity. But we can afford to keep our senses open to new nuances of the part we can make for the world with the Space Revolution.

For example, last issue we ran an article entitled "The Bicentennial and Beyond". In it we discussed the analogy between the history of the United States and the beginnings of the Space Revolution. We discussed expansion and its implications for each's development. In previous-to-November-1975 issues of MB, we have spoken of the political possibilities associated with the Presidential Year. Further development of the ideas presented in those articles could be enlarged if we explore the following address: John Warner, Bicentennial Times, Box 1976, Washington DC 20276.

This publication is free to anyone who writes to request that it be sent to them. It is monthly or bi-weekly is the vague impression we have. It prints stories about bicentennial events being held throughout the country and the world. Although we will not find any obvious leads for our activity in the newsletter, it will keep us informed about an area of interest which might provide explosive possibilities. There is much exaggeration here. Yet it is the imagination behind the exaggeration which makes our advances possible. Although the Board will obtain an organizational subscription to the Bicentennial Times, we would encourage individual members to subscribe to it, too. This might seem redundant but we wish to encourage much autonomy of action for the individual member. The Board has many responsibilities and cannot always relay information to the membership as quickly as this fast-moving world requires. Furthermore, the Bicentennial can best be exploited by us at this stage at the local level. As the year wears on, the national level can engage greater resources.

Great Memorandum 1 (GM 1) revealed the Far Centaurus Mission. The background for the mission is being provided, as promised, by the article "If World War III Stays Nuclear Free, We'll Get To The Moon Just Fine" which begins this issue. The results of the mission are reported here. The most obvious and primary result was the establishment of the chamber address in Clayton, Victoria near Monash University. Although this achievement has become complicated recently (see January 1976 "Treasurer's Report"), the initial contact and securing of position has been obtained. The President and Treasurer learned a great deal about erecting a self-perpetuating organization in Australia and the rigors, costs, and most efficacious approaches related to same. As importantly, the mission learned that Australia is not a backward nation and is rather intimately involved in space developments (see this issue's "Voices From The Inside World"). The mission was a bold but limited one. There is much preparation to be done in the United States before a second, more permanent, mission is sent. To prepare properly for the future in space it is vital to organize on a broad basis. The larger the audience, the greater will be the response. Further memoranda will develop these themes. For now we simply bask in the knowledge that the February mission to Australia reached its objectives.

IV. Voices From The Inside World

As a primary space power, the United States of America is in the vanguard of space exploration. The achievements the U.S.A. has presented to the world in ever-startling fashion from the early 1960s are of such magnitude that one might make the error in judgement of deciding that few, if any, other nations' efforts mattered. We have pointed out in previous issues the naivete of such a grand view of America's space program. Over ten nations already have sizable space budgets and each year brings more into the club. Indonesia will become such a state this year with the launch of its first satellite. The European states continue with their manned missions using the Space Shuttle as launch vehicle. Canada has been a pioneer in many ways in the development of Third World space programs. In future we can only expect to see this trend become stronger. The Viking probes have yet to land; the launch to Venus of a Pioneer robot in 1978 is still on; each will present humanity with fantastic new thoughts on space. We hope for feverish developments. The nation is ripe for great change. There is an imperialistic note in the air (note recent government statements on Cuba, Southern Africa, Middle East, and Soviet Union). We must focus upon every space trend as a part of the resolution of the crisis confronting the planet. A U.F.O.E.S.P. probe was sent to Far Centaurus and the mission told much about space, the future, and the Third World.

Australia might seem like a faraway place. A continent which is a nation unto itself, Australia is also located in a corner of the world where it is unconnected by land to any other region. Largely unpopulated, mostly desert Australia would seem to be far removed from space shots and moon colonies. Yet one of the most remarkable observations made by the Far Centaurus Mission was the extended coverage given to cosmic matters. In part this was the consequence of the advances of the Australians themselves. During the first week of February 1976, a research team headed by the chairman of the chemistry department at Monash University (located in a suburb of Melbourne) identified the 36th molecule to be discovered in space since 1968. This effort to identify the molecule (HNC) extended over four years in competition with other research teams around the world. The Australian for 2-12-76 carried a story/interview with Professor Len Brown of Monash. In this article, Professor Brown said, "You could, in desperate circumstances of over-population and world-wide starvation, make a planet like Mars habitable, by making some violent changes in its atmosphere, but the ideal solution would be to create a perfect facsimile of earth in space. It would not be a space ship--but a huge space station . . . where people could be born, live and die in surroundings similar to a pollution-free earth. The ideal thing would be to have a number of these cylinders, some kilometres in diameter, with one devoted purely to living space . . . another cylinder purely for industrial purposes and another for agriculture . . . We have the technology available to perform such a thing but at the moment, it is only a matter of money. The cost of building such a cylinder would be around [\$10,000,000,000] . . . I see this as the only answer to the population problem. If they started building these colonies now vast numbers of people could soon be living in the skies. It would be the equivalent of setting up another Benalla in space with the sky as a backyard. I would definitely prefer it to living in a colony on the moon . . ." The 2-10-76 edition of The Australian, in its education section, presented a short course on the Universe for high school students. The Melbourne Sun-Herald for 2-15-76 had a rather lengthy story on the enormous increase of interest in science-fiction in the United States. The story concluded that America was simply "spaced-out". In the second week of February the Melbourne Age reported that 12 Australian scientists, including the chairman of the geology department of the University of Sydney, had been invited by NASA to participate during 1976 in a feasibility study of the lunar colony necessary for the construction of the first space habitats such as Len Brown, Gerard O'Neill, and Charles Holbrow have discussed in various forums. This study represents a further step on the road towards space colonization. Finally, during the third week of February, the Australian press carried the announcement of the presentation of a prestigious international award in pioneer physics research to two people, one of whom was an Australian woman. It is clear from such articles, printed in such a short (three-week) interval, that Australia, though smaller than California in population, has a lively interest in space and is a center of activity for same in the Third World.

The past two issues of MB have, in this column, reported much on the discussions of space colonies which are seen with increasing frequency. It might be useful to mention some of the specific sources substantiating this statement. The 2-23-76 issue of the San Francisco Examiner, in the "Scene" section (page 17), has a long story on Dr. Charles Holbrow and his supporting theses for space colonies. The lead article for the January 1976 issue of Astronomy is entitled "Colonies In Space" and is accompanied by a simply stunning cover painting of one colony. The December 1975 issue of the same magazine has a well-reasoned essay explaining the logic and necessity of a lunar observatory. The current issue (March) of Astronomy presents an article investigating the implications of the Space Shuttle on the future development of space for man called "Beyond Space Shuttle". The 8-24-75 Contra Costa Times story on space colonies might be sighted as one example of the many early stories carried in the small press on the idea. The New York Times Weekly Review has an entire page of its 1-18-76 edition devoted to an article by Dr. G. O'Neill on the beauties of space colony life. Dr. O'Neill also has an article in a December 1975 issue of Science, a weekly publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, concerning the potential of space colonies for resolving the energy crisis. It is obvious that colonization of other worlds is an idea whose time, if not come, is near.